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ston, Guatemala; Act. Asst. Surg. L. R. Wailes, at Puerto Cortez, Honduras; Wm. T. Hamilton, at La Ceiba, Honduras; D. W. Goodman, at Bluefields, Nicaragua; Wm. H. Corson, at Port Limon, Costa Rica, and Act. Asst. Surg. H. B. Mohr, at Bocas del Toro, Colombia.

The following reports have been received from these officers:

BRITISH HONDURAS.

Belize.—Acting Assistant Surgeon Knight reports, May 11, that the sanitary conditions of Belize are very good; prevailing disease malaria; no infectious or contagious disease in Belize or near surrounding country. The steamer *Manogue* sails this morning for Mobile; the steamer *Breakwater* sails this afternoon for New Orleans. Captains, crews, and passengers all in good health.

COLOMBIA.

Bocas del Toro.—Acting Assistant Surgeon Mohr reports, May 6, as follows—

I have the honor to submit report for week ended Friday, May 5, 1899.

The following vessels have cleared and sailed from this port during the week: April 30, steamship *Kitty*, Olsen, 17 crew, for Mobile, 1 passenger; steamship *Franklin*, Mussen, 14 crew, for New Orleans, no passengers. May 3, steamship *John Wilson*, Olsen, 17 crew, for Mobile, 4 passengers. May 4, steamship *Phœnix*, Sewall, 17 crew, for New Orleans, no passengers. May 5, steamship *Utstein*, Aarsvold, 15 crew, for Mobile, 1 passenger; steamship *Fulton*, Jacobsen, 14 crew, for New Orleans, 2 passengers.

The health of Bocas del Toro and the surrounding country is very good. Local physicians report very little malarial fever. The weather has been exceptionally warm, and very little rain has fallen during the week.

Two deaths have come to my knowledge, 1 an infant, cause not ascertained; 1 a Chinaman, cause suicide.

I have had occasion during the week to visit several points in the Chiriqui lagoon, where I found the sanitary conditions good. The manner of handling and loading the vessels in the lagoon commended itself to me. The ships come to anchor about one-half mile from the shore, and the lighters with the fruit are brought by steam launches, which are then unloaded by the laborers on the ships. As this work proceeds very rapidly, there is little time for any further communication with the shore. As the master of the ship is not concerned with the loading, he has ample time to keep a vigilant watch over his ship.

I propose to make such trips from time to time until I have visited all loading points in the lagoon.

May 13, as follows: I have the honor to submit report for the week ended Friday, May 12, 1899. The following vessels have cleared and sailed from this port for ports in the United States: May 6, steamship *Colombia*, Berg, 16 crew, for Mobile, no passengers. May 10, steamship *Yumuri*, Boc, 16 crew, for Mobile, 2 passengers. May 11, steamphip *Baracoa*, Wolden, 16 crew, for Mobile, no passengers; steamship *España*, Danielsen, 14 crew, for New Orleans, no passengers.

The health of this port and the surrounding country is good. I have seen a few cases of malarial fever, all of the tertian variety. No remit-

tent forms or continued forms of fever have as yet come under my observation. The following deaths have come to my knowledge: Pulmonary tuberculosis, 2; cerebral hemorrhage, 1; chronic nephritis, 1. These figures were obtained from reliable sources, and they include all burials which have taken place during the week. I have visited some of the neighboring islands and find the health of these isolated points remarkably good.

There has been considerable traffic to and from Colon during the week. With Puerto Limon, Costa Rica, there has been little communication.

COSTA RICO.

Port Limon.—Acting Assistant Surgeon Carson reports, May 8, as follows:

I respectfully report herewith the continued good health of Port Limon, Costa Rica, and also the satisfactory condition of the adjacent country.

One death was officially recorded yesterday, the 7th instant, as resulting from fever, but not classified. I learned on investigation that the death in question was the result of repeated attacks of malarial fever, the deceased, a coolie woman was advanced in years, very feeble and had not received any medical attention. This death has been the only one recorded in the town and department of Limon since the 28th ultimo.

There is no suspicion as to contagious or infectious disease to be connected with the hospitals of Limon at this date.

May 12, as follows: The sanitary condition of Port Limon and also of the adjacent country remains good. There is no suspicion of contagious or infectious disease. Only 1 death has occurred in the town of Limon since report of the 8th instant, a male coolie, found dead by the roadside a short distance outside the town limits; the cause of death, however, was returned as calentura (fever), a very common and convenient local term, and one not at all times reliable nor satisfactory.

May 14, as follows: Rigid inspection made this morning of the 2 hospitals located at Limon as to the existence of contagious or infectious diseases was very satisfactory. One death occurred in Limon Charity Hospital, an inmate for some weeks, and whose death has been officially returned as the result of valvular disease of the heart. This is the only death in the town or department of Limon since last report of the 12th instant. The sanitary condition of the town of Limon proper continues very good.

HONDURAS.

Puerto Cortez.—Acting Assistant Surgeon Wailes reports, May 9, as follows: Since my last report I would respectfully state that I have made a tour of inspection of 4 small towns, of from 100 or 200 to 1,000 inhabitants each, situated on the coast northward, Omoa, Palo Blanco, Ponaiso, Morchilina, and La Masca. These pueblos are all situated on high, salubrious, sandy ground, at the foot of the mountains, and free from swamp or marsh, with the exception of Omoa, the largest. The houses, or dwellings, are almost entirely of bamboo and mamacea leaves, with dirt floors. The inhabitants are of the native mixed races, living most frugally on the native products of the country; fruit chiefly, the banana plantation being their only source of revenue as well as subsistence, using the water from the mountain spring. I visited or